

DOCKING SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DOCKING IN AUTOMATED TESTING SYSTEMS

Abstract

5 A docking system (10) and method for docking a test head (16) of a device
tester to a device handler. The docking system (10) has a handler plate (12) and a
tester plate (14), respectively mountable to the device handler and the test head (16).
The handler plate (12) has two conversion bars (18a,18b). Each of the two
conversion bars (18a,18b) has two lateral protrusions (40a,40b). The tester plate (140
10 has four slot mounts (26a,26b,26c,26d), each with an escalating slot (50) that is
laterally oriented for respective linear engagement with the lateral protrusions
(40a,40b) for the docking. The method involves making a quick alignment of the
handler plate (12) to the tester plate (14) by inserting two pre-docking guide pins into
(20a,20b) two pin sockets (22a,22b) and, thereafter, actuating one or both of two
15 actuating cams (28a,28b) for the respective linear engagement.

FIG. 1 accompanies the abstract.